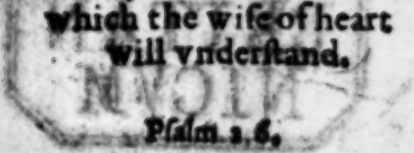


A brieft and plaine Nar-
ration of proceedings at an Assem-
semblic in *Glasco*, 8. Iun. 1610.
anent the innovation of
the Kirk-governe-
ment.

642
7

With a narration of some straunge Epi-
scopall accidents lately happened in
Scotland, worthie cōsideration:
which the wise of heart
will vnderstand.



Psalm 136.

I have set my King upon Zion:

Proverb 21.30.

There is no counsell against the Lord:

Luke 19.37.

Those mine enemies, which would not
that I should reigne over them, bring
hither, and slay them before me,



Anno 1610.



To the reverend Brethren in Scotlande.



Notwithstanding I can not (as I
often desired) see with my bo-
dily eyes, by what meanes &
degrees the state of Christ his
Church (there) is become so
strangely defaced, that so I
might with more feeling pray, and with more
iudgmēt helpe, as I could: yet have I never cea-
sed with Nehemiah, carefully to hearken after,
& diligently to inquire concerning Ierusalem.
So that (of late) by sundrie intelligences, I vn-
derstand, that the Glorie of the Lord, (can
Nehemiah possibly hold in his teares?) is de-
parted from that part of Israell touching out-
ward administration of Christ his Kingdome
by his owne Office-bearers. Oh, that our sinnes
have provoked God thus to moove our David
against us! We hoped that our gracious King
(according to his promise made openly in Ed-
inburgh that day before he went towards
England) would rather have remooved those

in Scotlande.

Reliques of Antichrist, which ever have troubled the peace of Christ his church in England, whereunto the God of peace did carrie him in a wonderfull peace, that he should prove a Prince of peace, in building and beautifying the house of God. O thou highest, and most gracious Governour of kings, who diddest tye our Kings heart in Anno Dom. 1592. to restore Discipline, notwithstanding he had in anno 1584. set up Papall Bishops: give him now grace religiouslie to remember, That he hath by subscription sworne to defende Discipline then in Scotlande, all the dayes of his life, and That hee consented to a constitution of the generall Assemblie in Holi-rud house. And anno 1602. whereby it was ordayned (to prevent aspiring to the state of Papall Bishops in Englande) that those who were called by his Maiestie vnto that Parleament, and were formerlie intituled Lord Bishoppes, shoulde from thence-forward, have no longer that title, and be called Commissioners for the Kirk to vote in Parleament. Longe have we (in these partes) expected from some of you (in whom the holy fire is not yet ex-

ting.

To the Reverend Brethren

distinguished) a continuance of the faithfull report anent th'assemblie at Aberdene. But supposing that eyther feare, or want of meanes bath restrained your zealous spirites, I have out of the said intelligences compiled this Narration with all faithfulness, though perhaps, there may be some small mistaking of the order of time. For most of myne intelligences (which I followe) shewe that the Archbishop of Glasco preached first. But one reported the Bishoppe of Orkney to be the firste preacher. It is thought meete by moe then my selfe to publish it, in hope, That, through the mercifull working of our good Lord and God, it may occasion our wyse & Christian King (according to that heavenlie light, wherewith God hath indued him) to revive and redresse such shamefull proceedings.

2. The Nobles, Barons, and Burroughes, to consider, that if such proceedings holde on, manie (besides the English Nation) will (too readily) say: Are the Nobles, Barons, and Burroughes of Scotland (as well as the Bishoppes and some Ministers there) corrupted by the treasure of Englande, to

in Scotlande.

yeelde vnto the ouerthrowinge of their Law, by directions from England, which proceed frō the instigations of the Archbishop of Cātorbuie? 3. The periured hyrelings, and apostate betrayers of Christ his kingdom, to repent, if they haue so much grace, or so be ashamed, if they be not past all grace, the wages of vnrighteousnes choking the spirit of God in them. And 4. Such faithfull Ministers of Christ Iesus, as fight the good fight of faith, to iustifie Wisedome, by learned and modest writings, to resist the approches of Antichrist, by patient suffering, though vnto bloud: and incessantlie to pray to God of Trueth (who hath said to his Christ, Sit thou at my right hande, vntill I make thine enemies thy foote-stoole) to take his owne cause into his owne handes, & to make our Noble King (all seducementes notwithstandinge) a warthie instrument of his glorie herein. A M E N.

A brieft and plaine narra-
tion of proceedings at an As-
semble in *Glisco*, 8. Iune 1610,
anent the innovation
of the Kirk-go-
vernment.



THE generall Assemblie
at *Limlithgaw* 26. Iuli,
1608. appointed 10. ap-
proving the present kirk
government, and 10.
affecting the Hierarchie
of Lord Bishoppes, to conferre about
middleses, to determine questions con-
troverted among Ministers, but referred
the determination it selfe to the next ge-
nerall Assembly then and there agreed v-
pon touching tyme and place, and that
with consent of *Dumbar* the Kings Com-
missioner, according to the Statute. These
10. met at *Falklande*. The Bishops would
have made a question, whether the go-
vernment of the Kirk by Synodes and

A breif narration of proteēdings

Presbiteries, or by the Bishoppes, were more agreeable to the word of God. The other side would not yeelde to make a questiō of that point, becaule the present Kirk government by Synodes and Presbiteries was without controversie established by Parleament and former Assemblies, & further confirmed by the Oathes of his Maiestie, the Nobles & Ministers. And therefore without the compasse of their commission from the general Assemblies The Bishops being defeated of their purpose (which was suspending the execution of *Discipline*, if question had been made thereof, as may appeare by the sequell) the conference was so adiorned, that it never helde againe, neither the generall Assemblie, though by such lawfull consent appointed for some weekes before the last day appointed, it was forbidden by proclamation. And why? If it had convened in dewe order, then everie Presbiterie should have freely chosen 2. or 3. of the same to be Commissioners for the

the generall Assemblie, and (in all likelihood) would have given them such directions to bee observed vppon payne of Nullitie on their proceeding, and of deposition and excommunication, if they proceeded otherwise, as all the Presbyteries did in one forme at the saide former assemblie, viz. that they should not give their consent to anie alteration of the Kirk government, &c. All this being against the Kings purpose, it pleased his Maiestie to sende *Dumbar* (a man after his owne heart) with a multitude of Letters, some to severall Presbyteries, and some to particular persons, such as could readily saie, Placet. The Bishoppes (forsooth) accompanied everie Bishop in his owne Diocesse: the Kings letters, with theirs to the Presbiterie, as if the Kings Letters were not sufficient without theirs. The parport of both letters was peremptorie. to charge the Presbyteries, to sende to the Assemblie to be at Glasco 8. Iunij. that verie man whom the King named, and in

• A brief narration of proceedings

no sorte to give them direction, that they might be free to vote as the King & they themselves would,

Before the Assemblie (or rather Dissemblie) conuened, *Dumbar* and the Bishops had three dayes serious conference to plott all matters: when those tractable men were come, *Dumbar* honorable entertayned them with *Balgams* wages (perhaps *sub nomine viatici*) as he had formerlie entertayned the like Assemblie at *Lindhogwe* Anno 1606. at what time (*vix & modis*) he set up a constant Moderator, to make way for a Lord Bishop to be advanced in fulnes of time, whiche was even now. For as *Daniel*, vnderstandinge by bookes, that the time of captivitie was expired, fasted and prayed that Gods people might returne to their owne lande, so the Apostolicall (I should say) Apostaticall Prelates, knowing by certayne intelligence, that the time of casting off Christ his yoke was come, fasted and prayed (I say not by Daniels spirit) thus Lordly, or

(as

(as the King calles them) Papall Bishops, might Dominiere over the Lords inheritance. The first that preached was the Archbishop of *Glasco*, his text was, *Ier. 51. 9. We would have cured Babel, &c.* This hee applied onely to *Rome*. But why did not the Archb. applie it thus: So wee would haue repaired *Babel*, that is the Hierarchie of Papall Bishoppes, which is a principall tower of that great Cittie which ruleth over Kings? Belike *Dumbar* & the Bishops had appointed that parte to be played by other. For the seconde Preacher was the Bishop of *Oarkeny*, whose text was, *Rom. 14. 19. Let vs followe those things which concerne peace:* He shewed that peace is kept by keping Truth. But wheras Truth touching the authoritie of Bishops over Presbiteries, was contraverted, He taught that Prelaticall truth thus: What greater reason can be the practise of the Apostles and the consent of the primitive Church, with authoritie of old and new Fathers, as *Beza, Iunius, Calvin, &c.* Againe, it is of it selfe

A brief narration of proceedings

selfe eyther indifferent, or commaunded,
or contrarie to the word: it can not be in-
different none (he thinkes) can shewe it
to be contrarie to the word. Therefore it
must be commaunded in the word. Last-
lie, it hath the commaund of our mightie
King, who for knowledge of Theologie,
exceedeth farre all the Doctors of Divi-
nitie. Therefore what ingratitude shall it
be to vs to refuse so necessarie a law, a bur-
den to vs Bishops, but to the Kirk of God
the onely perfection of hir libertie in this
life. This done, the people were dismis-
sed a while. In which space the dissemblie
chooseth the Archb. of Glasco Modera-
tor, and a privie conference (whiche En-
glishmen call a Comittee) vpon which
were *Dumbar*, the Bishops, many States-
men, and some deemed opposites to Bi-
shops, as *M. Hall*, *M. Copar*, &c. The Arch-
bishop produced the K. Letters, wherein
he professed care to maintaine discipline,
whercof his Ma. ever thought Bishops to
be the ground and pillar, And therefore
bath

At an assemblie in Clasco.

hath convokated the Dissemblie to esta-
blish them in their ful power, having long
wayted and looked that the Presbiteries
shold have done it of themselves. Behold
here Prelaticall Theologie. Beholde the
Prelats fast, In the midst of the pretended
humbling their soules in a solemne man-
ne: before the King of Kings, an earthlie
Kings letter must be read, elections must
bee made, they must fall to their busines,
before they have ended their fasting and
prayer for direction and a blessing, But
confused proceedings are fitt for a worke
of cōfution intended. Well at last they go
to the third Sermon made by Doct. *Hodge*
sone (one of Dumbar his English Chap-
laines) his text was, Act. 2. 1, his doctrine
of cookes and kitchingstufte. And yet hee
had one argument of note for the superi-
oritie of L. Bishops, viz. Christ raught
some of his Apostles at the head, some in
his bosome, and some at his feete, *Ergo*,
potlid. The next day being Satterdy, the
dissemblie convened about 8. houres, but
late

A breef narration of proceedings

late looking one on another, till about eleven; The cause was opposition in the privie conference betweene *Maist. John Hall*, &c. and the Bishops about their negative voyce in Ecclesiasticall Jurisdiction. The Bishopsoath to the contrarie being vrged, *Dumbar* produced a Lettre frō the King to the Bishoppes, commaunding them eyther to accept their whole office, or to quite their places: So were the Bishoppes freed from their oath, the matter therevpon presentlie carried with pluralitie of voyces, and then they went to the Assemblie, wherein nothing was done that forenoone, onely the Archbishoppe being Moderator, excused the longe staying of the privie conference, and *M. Primor* would have protested against the proceedings of that Dissemblie, but was interrupted by the Moderator, because it was high dinner time, and referred to the privie conference; after that *Glasco* (the Dissemblie then risen) had drawne him to discover his purpose. In the afternoone,
the

At an Assemblie in Glasco.

the privie conference met, and make vpp
their conclusions, viz. 1. The Assemblie
at *Abirdeen* was vnlawful. 2. All power
of convening, & discharging generall As-
semblies, pertayneth only to the King. 3.
Ordination, admission, deprivation, & sus-
pension. 4. Visitation of Churches, and
5. Excommunication and absolution be
proper to the Bishoppes: if they be slacke,
the generall Assemblie shall trie & report
to his Ma. that he may censure them ac-
cording to their merit. 6. Synodes are to
meete yearelie in October, and April, and
the Bishopp is to bee Moderator. 7. The
Presbyterian Moderator, is to bee the Bi-
shop him selfe, or shalbe chosen with his
consent. 8. Ministers admitted, shall give
the oath of obedience to the King & his
Ordinarie. 9. Whosoever shall preach,
write, or speak against these conclusions,
shalbe deprived. The Moderator pro-
pounded these to the Dissemblie, not se-
verallie to bee discuss'd, but altogether
ioyntlie as one, requiring every one to an-
swere

A brief narration of proceedings

swere, yea, or no: having made way to the first, with this reason: The brethren banished, have promised to confesse a fault to his Maiestie, if they shal be condemned by a generall Assemblie, and so to returne to their owne Congregation. O reason Archiepiscopall! But what if the banished brethren protest against this dissemblie, & pleade that they be vniustlie condemned, because they be not heard what they can say for them selves.

The Moderator likewise desired the dissemblie, that a letter might be penned to request his Ma. for a yearlie Assemblie, or at the least to appointe certen tymes, as hee should thinke expedient. Beholde a Machevillian trick, by a pretended Synode to weaken the authoritie of Parliament in a Statute made in anno 1592. whereby it is ordayned, that there should be a general Assemblie at least once every yeare, and to give the King onely all authoritie to call generall Assemblies at his pleasure, that statute notwithstanding. Moreover,
before

At an assemblie in Glasco.

Before their votes was particularly demanded, an ordinarie was made that none should speak but speared at. When votes were demanded, the affirmatives carried all before them, but some negatives charged the conclusions to bee contrarie to Gods word: Some pleaded their oath to maintayne Discipline so many yerres established, and some answered, they had no commission from their Presbyteries. Furthermore, these conclusions get the more ready passage, because a feare was conceived that *Dumbar* had the Kings garde present to commit such as should earnestlie withstand the Kings purpose. For his Lo. professed that he would have no man there that should give countenance of mislike. Lastlie, to make all sure, there were in this dissemblie besides the 13. Bish. Nobles 13. and Gentlemen 40. (which were not chosen by Synodes or Presbyteries) to carrie the matter with pluralitie of votes, if in answers, many Ministers should stand for their presbyteries, at other devises not

A brief narration of proceedings

Withstanding. When this transcendent authoritie of papall Bish. was thus obtained, *Dumbar* produced an instrument frō the King, vtterlie to discharge al the Presbyteries. If questiō had ben made in the conference at *Faulkland* before mentioned of the then present kirk-government, would not *Dumbar* have plaid the pranke even then to suspend the ex.com. therof? Whē the discharge of Presbyteries was red, there was an outcry in the Assemblie: *Dumbar* tooke that occasion to promise vpon his honor, to perswade the King, if he could, to recall that discharge: Provided they would subscribe the conclusions whervnto they had cōsented. By this cunning he got the hands aswell as the votes of manie sworne *Balamits*. The next day being Sabbath, the Kings Chaplaines *D. Hampton* & *D. Merdon*, preached one in the forenone, & hother in the afternoone. *D. Hampton* text was, Psal. 122. 1. *I reioyced, &c.* In his doctrine hee taxed sacrilegious persons, who robbed God of his tenthes, reprov'd
the

the forme of Discipline by Synodes and Presbyteries, & proved the superiorities of Bishops thus: To one maintaining paritie, another said, begin paritie in your owne house, *Ergo* the staffe stands in the church corner. *M. Moret*. text was, 2 Cor. 1. 12. *Our reioycing is the testimonie of a good conscience.* A principall part of his doctrine was, a maintenance of superioritie of Bishops, with these reasons: 1. There was superioritie amongst Priests in the old Testamēt. 2. Though the high Priest was a type of Christ, yet there were Captaines over the Priestes & Levites. 3. Paul left Titus at *Creta* to ordaine Elders, and it is not said, I leave thee an Evāgelist. 4. A& 20. 28. & Revel. 2. 1. conferred together. 5. *Bees* and *Cranes* have their governors, yea Angells have *Gabriel*, & Devills have *Belzebub* their princes, *Ergo*, the Pope is no œcumenicall Bishop. On Mūday the Moderator praying God for the happie successe in the first cause of that dissemblie propounded. 1. *Moe*, viz. Taking order with papistes, &

A breif narration of proceedings

provisiō for Ministers, touching the which
Dumbar & 4. Bishops should meete, make
vp a roll of excommunicants & vnplated
churches, and sende it to the King, So the
dissemblie was dismissed, no new appoin-
ted, & Psal. 133. chanted. As *Dumber*, Bish.
Noble men, and others returned by *Stir-
ling*, M. *Patrik Symson* made such a sermon
as grieved them at the hart, but nothing
was saide vnto him. At their comming to
Eding, M. *Walter Bakanquell* made a migh-
tie sermon against the whole proceeding
of the dissemblie, for which he was called
before the Counsell. But dismissed with
admonition, and M. *Patrike Galloway* in his
first sermon after his returne to *Edingbo-
rough* from *Perth*. (where hee had beene
all the time of the Assemblie) inveyed
(though wiselie yet sensiblie) against the
dissemblie, and threatned iudgementes,
because of the same,

To

To the Reader.

BEfore I had altogether finished the im-
printing of this Narratio, I received from
a faithfull Brother (whose being is where
he may have present & certaine intelligence)
a letter: Wherein he crediblie reporteth these
insuing workes of God. Which, because they be
right worthie to be noted, I thought good to pu-
blish in the same wordes, as they came to my
handes. Admonishing our Papall Bishoppes
of the newe erection, to consider these iudge-
ments of God: and withall to remember the
death of the late titular Bishop Maister Iames
Nicholson, who was then troubled in consci-
ence for accepting that title; So that hee would
not be called Bishopp in his will, and by his Will
reiected whatsoever was due to him out of his
Bishopricke. The Lord give us understanding
in all things.

Th' Archbishop of S. Androis, reposing in his
bedd in time of the afternoones sermon, the
Sabbath after his Diocesan Synode in S. An-
drois, was wakened and all the Kirk & Towne
with him, with a crie of bloud and murder. For
his

his sisters sonne (maister of his householde) with
a throw of his dagger killed his Cooke, while as
he was busie in dressing of the Lord Bishoppes
Supper, the dagger light inſt under the left
pappe of the Cooke, who fell downe dead imme-
diatlie.

Item, the ſaid Biſhopp, at the Towne of Ha-
dington in Lawdien, where hee keepis an o-
ther Dioceſan Synode: after he had bene in do-
ctrine much upon the contradiction of Core,
out of the Epistle of Iude, comminge furth of
the Kirk dore, in the porch thereof, the earth
under him, burſt, and rent, and he ſunke downe:
So that, if hee had not bene pulled out quicklie
by his Colateralles, hee had gone the way of
Core, and his companions.

FINIS



